

Policy & Procedure (P & P)

Policy Title :

THAWING PLASMA AND CRYOPRECIPITATE USING THE HELMER PLASMA THAWING SYSTEM

Department	Index No.	Scope
Laboratory & Blood Bank	LAB-111	Blood Bank Staff
Issue Date	Revision NO	Effective Date
04/06/1432	3	1441/7/19
Review Due Date	Related Standard NO.	Page Number#
1443/7/19	CBAHI (LB .59-60)	6

01. Policy:

- 01.1. The Fresh Frozen Plasma (FFP) is thawed in a Plasma thawing machine between 30 and 37 C without direct contact with water.

02. Definition:

- 02.1. N/A

03. Purpose :

- 03.1. Fresh Frozen Plasma is thawed at a temperature between 30 and 37°C to keep coagulation factors activity.

04. Procedure :

1. Fill the Chamber

Two fill lines are marked on the rear wall of the chamber.

The lines indicate the maximum water level for the following applications:

- Upper line: maximum level for thawing random bags
- Lower line: maximum level for thawing apheresis bags

2. Determine the Correct Thaw Time

Thaw time varies by bag type and how the bags were manipulated when frozen (flat or folded).
The table below indicates median thaw times for bags previously stored at -30 °C.

Plasma Bag (Size and Type)	Manner Frozen	Median Thaw Time (Minutes)
10 mL to 15 mL cryoprecipitate	Folded	5
250 mL standard	Flat	10
250 mL thick plastic	Flat	16
250 mL standard	Folded	17
300 mL standard	Flat	14
500 mL (jumbo) apheresis	Flat	18

3. Load the bag(s):

- 3.1. Insert plasma bag into appropriate size overwrap bag.
- 3.2. On control panel, press the LIFT OUT button to raise and open basket.



LIFT OUT button.



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DH8 models:

Remove the basket divider if a jumbo or wide bag is loaded.

- Squeeze sides of the divider together and pull divider away from basket.



Removing divider from DH8 basket.

4. Place overwrapped plasma bag in basket.

Hook the slot at the top of the overwrap bag over the tab on the basket. For large overwraps, ensure both slots are hooked over the tabs.

The plastic container prevents contamination of water bath if any leakage happens from the plasma bag during thawing.

5. **Insert a security snap** through top set of holes on the basket compartment. Push the snap toward the basket until it snaps against the overwrap bag.



Bag in standard-sized overwrap bag with security snap.

6. Start a Cycle:

- 6.1 Confirm the chamber has been filled to the appropriate level.
- 6.2 Confirm the water temperature stabilized at temperature setpoint.
- 6.3 Enable or disable agitation motion, depending on your organization's specific needs.
- 6.4 Load overwrapped bags into basket(s), with security snap(s) as needed.
- 6.5 For each basket, press the CYCLE TIME button to select the desired time.
- 6.6 Press the CYCLE START button to lower basket and start the thaw cycle

7. Stop, Pause, or Resume a Thaw Cycle

- 7.1 When a thaw cycle is stopped or paused, the basket lifts out of the chamber before the thaw cycle is completed.
- 7.2 ► Press the LIFT OUT button to raise the basket and temporarily pause the thaw cycle. The remaining time is displayed on the cycle time indicator.
- 7.3 ► Press the LIFT OUT button again to resume the thaw cycle. The basket is lowered into the chamber and the agitation motion resumes.
- 7.4 ► The hold ("HO") setting may be selected while the thaw cycle is paused (LIFT OUT button pressed).

8. Complete a Thaw Cycle

- 8.1 When a thaw cycle reaches the end of its programmed time setting, the basket stops agitating, lifts out, and opens.
- 8.2 An audible alert sounds to indicate the thaw cycle has completed, and the cycle time indicator resets to the previously selected time setting.

9. Unload Bags

- 9.1 On control panel, press the LIFT OUT button to raise and open basket.



LIFT OUT button.



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- 9.2 Remove the security snap from the basket.
- 9.3 Unhook the slot at the top of the overwrap bag from the tab on the basket.
- 9.4 Remove the overwrap bag from the basket.
- 9.5 Remove the plasma bag from the overwrap bag.
- 9.6 Discard the overwrap bag.

Storage after thawing

- Thawed FFP units are stored in the blood bank refrigerator between 1 and 6 C if there is any delay in transfusion.
- Thawed Cryoprecipitate units are stored at room temperature between 20-24 C
- Thawed FFP units are assigned an expiration time of twenty four hours 24 H from the thawing time.
- Thawed Cryoprecipitate units are assigned an expiration time of six hours 6 H from the thawing time for the individual units and four hours 4 H from the thawing time of pooled units..

Transportation:

Thawed FFP are transported in properly insulated container between 1 and 10 C.

Thawed Cryoprecipitate are transported in properly insulated container between 20 and 24 C.

06. RESPONSIBILITY

- 06.1. All Blood Bank Staff of Al-Qunfudah General Hospital.

07. EQUIPMENT AND FORMS::

- 07.1. Plasma Thawing Machine Temperature.

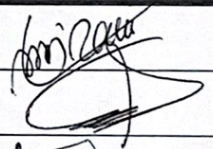
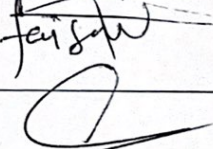
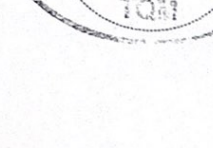
08. Attachment :

N/A

09. Reference

- 09.1. Plasma Thawing Machine manual

Preparation , Reviewing & Approval Box

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